

MINUTES
CITY OF SAN DIEGO
YEAR 2000 REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

October 3, 2001 - 4:00 p.m
City Council Chambers
202 C Street, 12th Floor
San Diego, California

Item 1. Call to Order

By Chairman Pesqueira at 4:00p.m.

REDISTRICTING COMMISSION ACTION (Tape location: A001)

Item 2. Roll Call

Operations Director Staajabu Heshimu called the roll:

(C) Chairman Ralph R. Pesqueira-present
(VC) Vice Chairman Leland T. Saito-present
(M) Mateo R. Camarillo-present
(M) Charles W. Johnson-present
(M) Marichu G. Magaña-present
(M) Shirley ODell-present
(M) Juan Antonio Ulloa-present
(EO) Deputy City Attorney Lisa Foster-present

REDISTRICTING COMMISSION ACTION (Tape location: A001-011)

ATTENDANCE DURING THE MEETING:

(C) Chairman Ralph R. Pesqueira-present
(VC) Vice Chairman Leland T. Saito-present
(M) Mateo R. Camarillo-present
(M) Charles W. Johnson-present
(M) Marichu G. Magaña-present
(M) Shirley ODell-present
(M) Juan Antonio Ulloa-present
(EO) Deputy City Attorney Lisa Foster-present
(rl)

Item 3. Non-Agenda Comment

This portion of the agenda provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Redistricting Commission on items of interest within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

Comments are limited to no more than two minutes per speaker. Submit requests to speak to the Commission's Operations Director **no later than 20 minutes (approximately 4:20 pm) after the Call to Order.** Pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act, no discussion or action, other than a referral, shall be taken by the Redistricting Commission on any issue brought forth under "Non-Agenda Comment.

NONE.

REDISTRICTING COMMISSION ACTION

(Tape location: A012-013)

CONSENT ITEM

Item 4. Approval of Commission Minutes

Approval of Commission Minutes for the Meeting of June 27, 2001

Commissioner Saito questioned the minutes stating that there is a probable error in Item 6 where Consultant Bruce Cain is quoted saying Asian Americans constitute 43% of the population. He feels this was probably transcribed incorrectly as he remembered the percentage being lower. This item will be verified for accuracy. The minutes were approved pending the correction.

REDISTRICTING COMMISSION ACTION

(Tape location: A014-045)

NON-AGENDA ITEM:

Commissioner Camarillo addressed the Chair having a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict in regard to his role as Chair of the Commission and his ability to influence the process while being a board member of an entity that was under discussion by the Commission. Commissioner Camarillo acknowledged that there was no legal conflict, but the appearance of a conflict by not appearing neutral while acting as Chair. Commissioner Camarillo also had a concern regarding speakers, and the varying length of time given to various speakers. He said he sent letter outlining his specific concerns to each member the Commission.

There was discussion by the Commission on this issue.

Ms. Foster stated that there were no legal problems with the process as carried out by Chairman Pesqueira.

REDISTRICTING COMMISSION ACTION

(Tape location: A046-382)

ACTION ITEMS

Item 5. Recommendation to Increase the Number of City Council Districts

Commissioners may develop a recommendation to the City Council relating to studying and placing on the ballot a proposal to increase the number of City Council districts. Possible action and direction to staff.

The Commission discussed several suggestions regarding the proposal to increase the number of City Council districts but did not vote. The Chair suggested that they would be better prepared to make a thorough recommendation after the redistricting workshop later this month.

TAPE B

NO ACTION TAKEN PENDING A WORKSHOP. DATE OF THE WORKSHOP TO BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE.

REDISTRICTING COMMISSION ACTION

(Tape location: A383-B324)

NON-AGENDA COMMENT

Chairman Pesqueira announced that on October 17, 2001 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. the Commission will have a reception. This will be for participants in the redistricting process and community members as well. The restaurant is the Cafe Eleven on Normal and University. City money will not be used for this event.

REDISTRICTING COMMISSION ACTION

(Tape location: A325-B373)

Item 6. Evaluating the 2001 Redistricting Process

Commissioners will evaluate the city's new redistricting process. This may include development of recommendations to future Appointing Authorities, Redistricting Commissions, Commission staff, City Councils, City Manager, City Clerk, City Attorney or other s to improve the process. Possible action and direction to staff.

The Commission held a discussion on recommendations to submit to assist future redistricting efforts in San Diego. The recommendations were as follows:

By Commissioner Saito:

- C Material used (educational process for Commission and public) during redistricting should be made available to Commissioners sooner
- C Software should be available sooner;
- C Map Data input person should be full-time;
- C The City Council should not use the Redistricting staff for analysis purposes but rather use their own staff so that staff would be more available for the Redistricting Commission's work;
- C The "communities of interest" needs to be studied and better understood;
- C How to consider a growing communities of interest versus traditional communities represented by planning groups is an issue that needs attention;
- C Charter concepts should be explained more thoroughly at the beginning of the process.

TAPE C

Commissioner ODell:

- C This Commission should make a list of the issues that were particularly difficult to deal with;
- C When going into the community, determine what the communities of interest are;
- C Limit the time that Council Members have to address the Commission, making it equal to any other citizen.

Commissioner Magana:

- C Better define communities of interest and interest groups;
- C Steamline and structure the testimony so that only testimony requested is given;
- C Maps submitted by the public should be made earlier in order for the Commission to fully consider them;
- C Be up-front with the new Commissioners regarding the vigorous schedule of meetings;
- C Outline possible issues to be considered at the beginning of the redistricting effort.

Commissioner Camarillo:

- C Protect the independence of the Commission and don't appear to be intertwined with elected officials, avoiding the appearance of undue influence;
- C To eliminate weekly meetings, maybe a more organized and timely way of gathering and distributing information could be explored;
- C Hold a workshop by a redistricting professional to address and educate the Commission and public on the redistricting process and define redistricting terms, addressing social and economical issues;
- C Groups or entities heard during public testimony should be carefully considered and weighed;
- C Meet sooner with Community leaders and newspapers and discuss the important issues of the community; ask their assistance in soliciting input from citizens;
- C Maps submitted by the public should be given more time for consideration;
- C Personal verbal attacks on Commissioners by the public should not be allowed.

Mr. Clive Richards: (Public member)

- C Have an idea from the public as to what they expect from the Commission;
- C Have a clear idea that democracy is indeed a cumbersome process;
- C In drawing political boundaries you must consider the political system;
- C Council Members should be given equal time as any public member when addressing the Commission;
- C Develop good ideas on what the criteria will be for drawing district lines.

TAPE D

Commissioner Johnson:

- C Increasing the community meetings beyond the number required by the city charter was excessive and redundant;
- C The police beat maps used during this process were apparently not up-to-date;
- C Hire staff sooner and get them setup sooner;
- C The concept of "communities of interest" need to be addressed.

Commissioner Ulloa:

- C Hire sufficient personnel;
- C Better control the audience from outbursts or demonstrations that hinder the Commission from clearly hearing the speaker on the floor;

- C Make sure the Attorney's office can provide a qualified attorney for redistricting and use an attorney familiar with federal, state and city charter laws;
- C Have an outside attorney or legal consultant to assist and consult the sitting attorney on the Commission.

Commissioner Pesqueira:

- C Evaluate the cost of a new commission.

REMARKS

Remarks by Ms. Heshimu:

At the last meeting Ms. Heshimu will brief the Commission on the Redistricting budget.

The following dates were announced:

Oct. 17- Closing reception

Oct. 25 - Possible workshop

There may be another meeting to tie up loose ends.

Awards and/or bonuses to be discussed later.

The Mayor will be drafting a resolution in honor of the Commission.

REDISTRICTING COMMISSION ACTION

(Tape location: B374-D170)

Item 7. Review Draft Post-Adoption Work Program and Time Line

Commissioners will review and add, delete or change tasks on the remaining work program and time line. Possible action and direction to staff.

NO ACTION TAKEN. COMMISSIONERS WERE ENCOURAGED TO REVIEW THE HANDOUT.

REDISTRICTING COMMISSION ACTION

(Tape location: D171-215)

Item 8. Adjournment

Adjourned by Chairman Pesqueira at 6:25p.m.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MAGANA TO ADJOURN THE MEETING IN HONOR OF
THE VICTIMS OF THE NEW YORK, WASHINGTON AND PENNSYLVANIA
TRAGEDIES. Motion seconded by Johnson.

REDISTRICTING COMMISSION ACTION

(Tape location: D216.)

Ralph Pesqueira, Chairman
2000 Redistricting Commission

Ramone Lewis
Legislative Recorder II